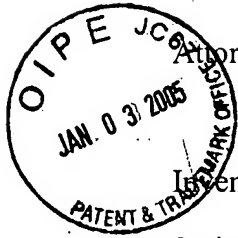


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Attorney Docket No.: 100809-00228 (SCEI 16.077A)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor : Akio OHBA

Serial No. : 10/723,874

Filed : November 26, 2003

Title **IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE AND METHOD, AND  
DISTRIBUTION MEDIUM**

Examiner : --

Group Art Unit --

January 3, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Prior to any Office Action on the merits, please amend the subject application as follows:

Any fee due as a result of this paper, not  
covered by an enclosed check, may be  
charged on Deposit Acct. No. 50-1290.

Filed by Express Mail

Receipt No. EV479698278415

On JAN - 03 - 05

By: [Signature]

Patricia Muir